

STUDENTS' SELECTION OF FIRST-PERSON REFERENCE ADDRESSING TERMS TOWARD TEACHERS

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Abstract

Indonesian addressing terms *saya* and *aku* have been a debatable topic among scholars regarding language shift appeared lately. Using Holmes' theory of code selection, this study attempts to investigate *Madrasah Aliyah Negeri* (MAN) students' practices in using first-person references when communicating with teachers by identifying their selection of using self-references and factors influencing their selection(s). This research used questionnaires (closed and open-ended questions) and stimulated response cards (closed-ended questions) to obtain the data from 120 students of grade 11 in MAN Salatiga. The results of this study showed that the students' tendency of self-reference was *saya* as their implication of traditional Islamic belief toward teachers although there were some students who used either *saya* or *aku* depending on the situations. The essential factors influencing the students' selection of *saya* toward teachers are politeness, respect, and teacher's age whereas the more-considered factors in practicing either *saya* or *aku* are teacher's structural position (status relationship), student-teacher relationship (social distance), teacher's age and personality (participant). Thus, politeness is included in the scope of the study.

Key words: Indonesian addressing terms, *saya* and *aku*, language shift, code selection, first-person references, self-references, politeness, respect, status relationship, social distance, participant.